



Correspondence Mail
BOX AF

MS AF
REPLY UNDER
37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 1734

PATENT
0445-0307P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Yoshinobu MACHIDA et al. Conf.: 1179

Appl. No.: 09/889,847 Group: 1734

Filed: July 23, 2001 Examiner: GRAY, LINDA

For: METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING ABSORBENT
ARTICLE AND CONTINUOUS MEMBER USED AS
PART OF ABSORBENT ARTICLE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(SUBMISSION AFTER FINAL REJECTION)

MS AF

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

November 5, 2003

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, applicant(s) hereby submit(s) an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS, OR OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on the PTO-1449, attached hereto.

II. COPIES

a. This application was filed before June 30, 2003. Accordingly, submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.

b. This application was filed on or after June 30, 2003. Accordingly, copies of cited U.S. patents and patent application publications therefore are

RECEIVED
NOV 18 2003
TC 1700

11/06/2003 RHARISI 00000025 09889847 180.00 0P
01 FC:1806

not included. Copies of foreign patent documents and non-patent literature are included.

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE
(check at least one box)

a. DOCUMENTS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

The patents, publications, or other information listed on the attached PTO 1449 are in the English language and therefore, do not require a statement of relevancy.

b. DOCUMENTS NOT IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications, or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:

c. ENGLISH LANGUAGE SEARCH REPORT

An English language version of the search report or action that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is attached, thereby satisfying the requirement for a concise explanation. See MPEP 609(III)(A)(3).

d. OTHER

The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.

Enclosed is a copy of a Japanese Office Action mailed September 16, 2003 and a copy of a Notice of Opposition mailed August 8, 2003.

RECEIVED
NOV 18 2003
TCB
PTO

FEES

IV. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d):

after the mailing date of a Final Action under § 1.113.

See the Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e).

V. STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (check only one box)

The undersigned hereby states that

- a. each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or
- b. no item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the IDS.
- c. Some of the items of information were cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office. As to this information, the undersigned states that each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby states that no item of this remaining information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the best of my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

RECEIVED
NOV 18 2003
TC 1700

RECEIVED
JULY 18 2003
TQ 1700VI. PAYMENT OF FEES (check one box)

A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed for the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) and as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2448 in the amount of \$180.00 for the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) and as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). A triplicate copy of this paper is attached.

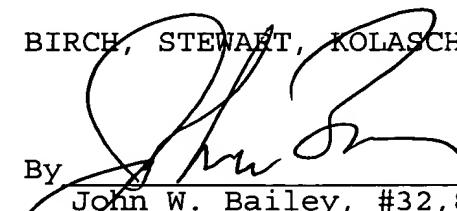
If the Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By


John W. Bailey, #32,881

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

cl
JWB/GMD/gh
0445-0307P

Attachment(s): PTO-1449
 Documents
 Foreign Search Report
 Fee
 Other: _____

(Rev. 09/30/03)

OIRE
NOV 05 2003

Sheet 1 of 1 (11/5/03)

Form PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.
0445-0307PAPPLICATION NO.
09/889,847APPLICANT
Yoshinobu MACHIDA et al.FILING DATE
July 23, 2001GROUP
1734

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	KIND	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	US						
	US						
	US						
	US						
	US						
	US						
	US						
	US						
	US						
	US						

RECEIVED
NOV 18 2003
TC 1700

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Office	DOCUMENT NUMBER	Kind	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	WO98/21035	A1	1998-05-22	PCT				
	WO97/24094	A1	1997-07-10	PCT				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Include Name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.)

Kako Gijutsu Kenskyusyo, "New Finish Machine and Peripheral Equipment", dated February 20, 1988, pp. 56-62, English translation of abstract.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

JWB/GMD/gh